

EDELWEISS



SWISS CLUB OF VICTORIA



Swiss Festival - a great success!

The idea for the Swiss Festival (formerly known as Volksfest) was born a few years ago and was previously organised by the Swiss Club of Victoria as a fund raiser for Swiss groups. At the meeting of the Committee of Joint Swiss Ventures (CJSV) under the leadership of the Honorary Consul of Switzerland, Ms Erika Kimpton, it was decided to use this tried and tested model as the major event of the year to present a united multicultural Switzerland to Victorians. At the same time it was to give Swiss community groups a sense of belonging after the closure of the Melbourne

to be secured and a fair amount of time was spent on advertising and promoting the event. The Swiss Festival appeared on many websites and leaflets were dropped off at the Melbourne Visitor Centre (Federation Square.) In the end the combined effort of the committee paid off and sponsorship in form of



money and raffle prizes was obtained. Putting the program together was no small task either considering the choice of talents the Swiss community has to offer. Again we managed to present a variety of interesting performers and also added children entertainment (Jumping Castle and roving magician.)

The Austrian Club in Heidelberg West was again our venue of choice. The excellent cooperation between the two clubs facilitates the occasion. And the beautiful garden with the children's playground, the stalls and ample parking creates the desired effect for what we wanted to achieve.



consulate. In the process these groups have met, and continue to meet, once a month to forge closer ties and to assist each other with promoting functions etc.

Back in November 2007 a newly set up Swiss Festival committee promptly took charge of the organisation including Erika Kimpton (Event coordinator), Andre Becker (Marketing), Bruno Giger (Treasurer), Rolf Huber (Chairman) and Damian Schaller (Secretary). A fresh approach was chosen and the name Volksfest was changed to Swiss Festival to brand it as a major cultural event together with an appropriate logo. We acknowledge the support of Patrick Rychner. Finances and sponsorship had



When the big day finally arrived, the huge turnout caught us by surprise. It was an uplifting moment to see so many young people, families with children and so many new faces. The overwhelming support of our members and friends of the Swiss Club was a humble but fulfilling experience for me.



Being an outdoor event we enjoyed a glorious day which was essential to the success. It was estimated that the number of attendees was close to 1'000. Over 750 sausages, 60kgs of potato salad, three wheels of cheese and more than 500 cups of coffees were consumed and the kitchen ran out of plates halfway through the day!

The program was packed with highlights and the visitors seemed to thoroughly enjoy the dances, music, Yodel, Alphorn Blowing competition and various other presentations. The Swiss community groups had their own stands with

Continued on page 6



SWISS CLUB OF VICTORIA

Founded in 1899

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Lunch - Monday to Friday from 12noon
Dinner - Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
from 6pm. Friday Happy Hour from 5pm
to 6.30pm.

Swiss Club Catering

For Weddings, Corporate, Seminars,
Parties, Private Functions contact Chef
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Newsletter

'Edelweiss' is the Newsletter of
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published quarterly in March, June,
September and December.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear members and friends of the Swiss Club,

I am sitting at my desk thinking about how time flies. My committee and I have been in office for over a year. It took me sometime to get used to it but then things

got easier. Whenever I pass the club I see the new Swiss Flag untangled swaying at the end of the pole and satisfaction prevails. The club is now in its 109th year!

At the AGM in early March which featured a magician and a multimedia show, Barbara, the current Vice President & Secretary, Derrick Wildi our treasurer and I were re-elected for another two years. Along with the rest of the committee, Gerda Probst (Membership), Patrick Rychner (Communications/website) and Oliver Altermatt (Building Management) we represent the committee of the Swiss Club of Victoria. A year seems not to be a long time but considering we all give our time freely it is with much gratitude I look back for what everyone has contributed.

An important part of the first quarter of this year was taken up by preparations for the Swiss Festival which finally happened on 6th April at the Austrian Club. It was a great success (read more about it in a separate report).

The last show of the Melbourne Comedy Festival at the Swiss Club took place on 13th April. I hope many of you felt inspired to attend one of the performances. Now the place belongs to the members again without any disruptions.

Speaking of the second floor, new ideas have come about such as renting out the area for desk space (serviced offices)

to generate instant funding for renovations. At this stage the Swiss Club is not in a position to invest a large amount of money for any major works on the second floor. As discussed at the AGM compliance with regards to electrical work, plumbing etc. will be given priority. The committee is in contact with Melbourne council and other governmental offices to encourage them to use the Swiss Club as a venue for functions.

A word about Terra Rossa and our tenant on the ground floor. He has celebrated their first year in May and hence the rent will go up by \$10'000. The canopy project has been put on hold for reasons due to stricter council building laws.

In this newsletter among other things, you will notice an offer from AON private insurance, a step by step instruction of how to best use our website and finally a new low cost parking arrangement which will benefit those of you who often frequent the club.

The online trade directory on our website (<http://www.swiss.org.au/page.php?ID=520>) is the perfect mean to search for members services and to support each others business activities. Entries are open to all interested parties. Also please support our advertisers in the newsletter.

The club has set a new milestone with introducing Swiss movie nights. The first one took place in April called "Vitus". The 30 plus guests enjoyed a brilliant movie and more are planned on 18th June (Die Herbstzeitlosen) and 20th August (title TBA). Hopefully more and more people will join us for this free activity.

A busy events calendar saw the Picnic Andacht in very hot conditions, Ladies Luncheon, Billiard and Jass evenings as well as the terrific Unterhaltungsabend now in its 23rd year.

Going forward early August is dedicated to our home country's Swiss National Day celebrations. The Lantern Procession for families with children is set to start off at Federation Square (formerly Treasury Gardens) and end up at the club. The traditional Swiss National Day Dinner Dance will be held at the club (please see the ads.) And please do not forget the first Thursday of the month with John Wanner and the "Kapelle Gröezi Mitenand", a must see event!

The committee would be delighted to see as many of you as possible during these weeks and months of club life. To give you even more choice we have agreed to advertise other Swiss community group's activities in 'Edelweiss' which we hope will be beneficial for our members.

I look forward to sharing many happy moments with you at the club!

Rolf Huber, President



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Welcome to our new members

Ivan & Janette Burch, Richard Clifton-Jones, Krystyna Diss, William Gregory, Hannelore Hauser, Chantal & Bernhard Imbach, Nicole Keller, Doris Marr, John Schmid and Arie Sparreboom

We are thrilled to welcome you to the club and hope you will join us frequently at the club restaurant or at one of the many functions.

Congratulations

A number of our longstanding, active members were celebrating their birthdays:

Dr Albert Cymons and Marguerite Demuth could both commemorate their **90th**, while Hans Brunner, Primo Calabresi, Francis Clausen, Ernst Dornbierer, Margrit Meier and Marcel Theiler all celebrated their **80th**. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them and wish them good health in many years to come.

Newsletter Deadlines 2008

September Issue: Covering Sept/Oct/ Nov
Editorial Deadline: Monday, 11 August
Packing: Wednesday, 27 August

December Issue: Covering Dec/Jan 09/Feb 09
Editorial Deadline: Monday, 3 November
Packing: Wednesday, 19 November

At the AGM on 5 March, the following members received an Honorary Life Membership due to 40 years of membership and at least 70 years of age:

Ernst Keller, Trudi Theiler, Colin Wilkinson

Marianne Puccinelli, President Groupe Romand du Victoria, has recently become a grandma and **Urs Marfurt** has become a proud grandfather to Emil Urs.

Get well

We are happy to hear that **Inge Altermatt's** health has improved and we hope that it will continue to do so.

We send our thoughts and best wishes to **Hanni Earl** who is recovering from a fall.

Get well wishes also go to **Max and Inge Kulmanis** who are both still recovering from accidents.

Sepp Schmidig is recovering from an operation. Get well soon Sepp, we want to see you at the Club asap.

Our thoughts are with **Fritz Tanner** and **Irma Rhis** who both lost their mothers recently.

To all members and friends who don't feel too well, we send our love and good wishes. Noch em Räge chunt z'Sunne...

The last farewell



It is with great sadness that we farewell **Ernst Mauerhofer** who passed away after long illness on 30 April at the age of 84 years. Ernst was a member of the Yodel Club Edelwyss and a Club member since 1970. Our thoughts go to Nola and family.

Dear members, if your partner or any of your friends and fellow members have a reason to celebrate, are unwell or have left for a better place, please let me know so that others know too.

Editor



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from page 1

presentations. The Swiss community groups had their own stands with information on their organisation and membership. Some of them sold traditional foodstuff, souvenirs and pre-loved items.

However our stated goal was to involve all Victoria based



Swiss community groups in the Swiss Festival. Looking back the entire committee is 100% pleased and satisfied with the commitment that each one of them put forward. We are one Swiss as Erika Kimpton coined the event. Going forward, I am happy

to advise that we have a mandate to organise the next Swiss Festival. I hope we will see you all in 2009!

P.S. Pictures and music videos of the Swiss Festival are available free of charge online. Please visit http://youtube.com/view_play_list?p=50E72343D28CD4E2

The Swiss Festival committee thanks its hosts the Austrian Club and acknowledges the generous support of its sponsors, entertainers, Swiss community groups, friends and volunteers and looks forward to a continuous partnership.

Sponsors: (in alphabetical order)

Austrian Airlines, Crown Limited, George Fischer Pty. Ltd., Henkell Brothers, Holidays on Location, Confiseur Läderach of Switzerland, Leica Microsystems, Mövenpick, Néstlé Nespresso, OCE-Australia, Roger Moullet, Swatch Group Ltd., the Swiss Consulate General in Sydney, Tarra Valley Rainforest Retreat, the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) and the Union Bank of Switzerland.

Entertainers and performers: (in order of appearance)

Chris Thalmann (Schwyzerörgeli), Tom Webb (Flag waiving,

Singing Saw, Washboard and Spoons), Markus Zihlmann (Schwyzerörgeli), Hans Brunner (Yodel), Saturday Morning Swiss School, Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn, The Ambassador of Switzerland Mr Christian Mühlethaler, Top to Top, the Australian Swiss Search Dog Association, Houlette, Swiss Folk Dance Group Alpenrose, the Swiss Companion Singers, Irma Thalmann (Alphorn Blowing Competition), Phillip Nadvesnik (Accordion), The Schwörgelis and Eva Trefalt (Contrabass).

Swiss community groups in Victoria: (in alphabetical order)

- The Swiss Ambassador to Australia, Mr Christian Mühlethaler
- Honorary Consul of Switzerland (Victoria), Ms Erika Kimpton
- Groupe Romand du Victoria
- Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (ASO)
- Pro Ticino
- Saturday Morning Swiss School
- Swiss Academic Network Melbourne (SANM)
- Swiss-Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- Swiss Club of Victoria
- Swiss Companion Singers
- Swiss Folk Dance Group Alpenrose
- Swiss Playgroup
- Swiss Society of Victoria (Benevolent Society)
- Swiss Yodel Choir Matterhorn
- Trachtengruppe Schwyzerguess (Australian/Swiss Cultural Society)
- The Young Swiss Group



Rolf Huber, Chairman Swiss Festival

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Solar Taxi at Federation Square

16 & 17 February

Swiss adventurer Louis Palmer started his trip around the world in his solar powered vehicle, the "Solar Taxi", on the occasion of the European Sustainable Energy Forum in Luzern in 2007. On 16 & 17 February 2008 he arrived in Melbourne to partake in the Sustainable Living Expo at Federation Square.



Louis Palmer travelled overland from the heart of Switzerland via 17 countries to the Middle East, from where he took a ship to his next destinations India and Indonesia – to reach Bali in time for the Climate Change Conference in early December 2007. It served to give an emission-free lift to, amongst others, Peter Garrett, Australia's Minister for the Environment. Next destination was New Zealand before reaching Australia.



It took 3 years to build the "Solar Taxi". The car pulls a trailer equipped with solar panels which generate roughly 50% of the electricity needed to run the car. The other half is generated through solar panels on top of the headquarters of sponsor Swisscom and reaches the "Solar Taxi" through the grid – symbolised by the fact that the "Solar Taxi" recharges its batteries at Swiss embassies, whenever possible. The solar panels back home work like a bank, from where Palmer can withdraw his earlier deposits when travelling by night or on a cloudy day.

Louis Palmer's Mission Statement is this: "On 3 July 2007 I set off on my first journey around the world with a solar powered vehicle. Admittedly, as a regular citizen I cannot change the world but I can demonstrate to the world just how dire the global climate situation has become and how many sophisticated solutions to lower the greenhouse gases already exist, which bring with them many other advantages. So that we can have a better world and a more secure future. The solar taxi should rekindle hope and a zest for life, set an example to counteract resignation and stimulate reflection. And show that every single one of us can take a step towards preserving our planet."



Unterhaltungsabend

On 3 May we had our traditional Unterhaltungsabend at the Club. What a night! Full house! Great ambience!

"Kapelle Grüezi Mitenand" under the leadership of John Wanner did not fail to have an effect on the patrons. Everybody sang to the popular tunes with the Band's medley. Many thanks to John and the Band for sharing their enthusiasm and energy!



The special performances by individuals found great applause.



The group enjoyed the opportunity to perform dances to life music provided by "Kapelle Grüezi Mitenand". A big thank you John for arranging the music for the dances.

To Roger and his team, thank you for a delicious meal and excellent service.

A very big thank you to everyone who so generously donated prizes towards our Tombola. I

specially would like to thank the committee of the Swiss Club and Roger for their continuous support.

To all the friends of the Dance Group thank you for being part in making the night a success.

Practise is every Tuesday night at the Swiss Club. We would like to have more members! Why not join us?

Sylvia Hochuli





Maestro Mario Venzago

Mario Venzago was born in 1948 in Zürich, where he studied piano and attended the conservatory and the university. Later, he continued his studies in Vienna.

For 10 years he toured and recorded extensively as a concert pianist and accompanist and also worked for the radio network in Lugano.



At age 30, he began his career on the podium as principal conductor of the Winterthur City Orchestra. He later led the Luzern Opera House and served as principal conductor for the broadcast recordings of l'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande in Geneva until 1986.

His distinguished conducting career has included engagements with the Berlin Philharmonic, Berlin's Komische Oper, the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, the London Philharmonic, the BBC London, l'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the Tonhalle Orchestra of Zürich, the NHK Symphony in Tokyo, the symphony orchestras of Copenhagen, Helsinki and Paris.

He also conducted, among other prestigious festivals, at the Salzburg Festival in Austria and at the Festival in Luzern.

In 1988 he made his American debut at the invitation of Leonard Bernstein at the Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute Orchestra and has since conducted many of America's prestigious orchestras such as the Boston Symphony and the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Maestro Venzago performs with many renowned artists such as Martha Argerich, Joshua Bell, Anne-Sophie Mutter, as well as many of the world's finest singers.

He will be performing with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra on June 26, 27 and 28 at 8pm at Melbourne's Hamer Hall.

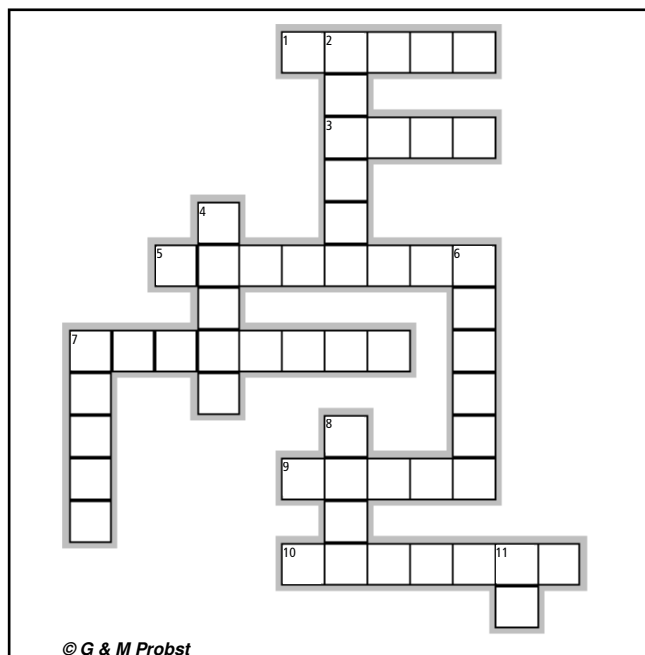
The program includes, Berlioz Overture: Le Corsaire, Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 20, Schönberg: Variations for Orchestra and Ravel's Bolero.

New Parking Arrangement

The committee is pleased to announce a new cost saving parking arrangement which will be implement for members of the Swiss Club of Victoria. For further details please contact Roger Moullet at the Swiss Club Restaurant.



Test your Swiss Knowledge



© G & M Probst

Across

1. Where was the first Swiss University founded in 1460?
3. What is the German name for Geneva?
5. Which Swiss is famous for his theory of relativity?
7. What organisation was started in 1864 by Henri Dunant?
9. What will be screened at the Swiss Club on 18 June?
10. First name of our treasurer?

Down

2. On the first of which month is Swiss National Day?
4. Last name of the convenor of Saturday Morning Swiss School
6. What famous Swiss company was founded by a pharmacist who developed and marketed milk for feeding babies?
7. What river passes through Lucerne?
8. Who do the Swiss Guards protect?
11. What is Switzerland's official internet country domain?

The Swiss Club of Victoria gratefully acknowledges the generous support by **Océ Australia** in providing the printing of this Newsletter free of charge.

Many thanks to Club member
Damian Schaller,
Product Manager - Digital
Document Systems,
Océ Australia



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Schweiz-Australien einfach

by Samira Shahin

ISBN: 978-3-85022-011-8

Published: 2007

Publisher: Novum Verlag,
Germany

Binding: Paperback, 180 pages



Synopsis

Anna and Ralf have a dream: to migrate to Australia to escape petty bourgeois Switzerland with all her rules and correctness, and to start a new, free and self determined life downunder.

After two years Anna travels back to Switzerland for the first time since her migration, to visit her family and friends. It makes her realise what she really has left behind in the old world – family ties that used to strangle her, but through which she feels now secure with a sense of belonging.

Anna has to ask herself now what her expectations in life really are...

The Author

Samira Shahin was born in 1972 in Bern and migrated to Australia in 1998. Today she lives in Cairns with her partner, runs a jewellery shop and teaches English part-time.

From the Editor

My apologies to members who do not speak and read German as this book is written in German. Nevertheless, I am sure that many of you would find it most interesting and thought provoking as this book tells a story that so many of us would readily identify with. I hope that one day it will be published in Australia in English.

I bought it via the online bookstore www.bides.de for 36.35 euro including postage. It was on my doorstep within a week.

A taste of Switzerland



Züri-Gschnätzlets Diced Veal with Cream and Mushroom

Though nowadays this famous Swiss dish most often consists only of veal and mushrooms in a creamy sauce, originally kidneys were also included. Skip them if you prefer, and increase the veal to compensate. The dish is traditionally served with Rösti (see September 2007 issue of the 'Edelweiss'), though pasta is permissible.

Dust the veal and the kidneys in seasoned flour and fry in small batches in butter, in a heavy frying pan. Remove as they are ready and keep them warm.

Fry the onion gently until soft. Add the mushrooms and lemon juice, cover and cook gently for about 5 minutes until the juices run. Remove the lid and cook hard to evaporate juices.

Add the wine and allow to reduce to almost nothing. Then add the cream and simmer steadily for about 5 minutes.

Return the meat briefly to the pan to warm through. Check seasoning, sprinkle with parsley and serve at once.

Serves 4 to 6

600g tender boneless veal, diced
200g veal kidneys, trimmed and diced
flour
salt and pepper
50g/4 tbsp butter
1 onion, chopped
200g mushrooms
(champignons), sliced
juice of ½ lemon
200ml white wine
200ml cream
parsley, chopped



En guete!

From the book 'A Taste of Switzerland' by Sue Style.
See book review December 2007 issue.

Joke of the day!

Another joke about Adolf Ogi (member of the Swiss Federal Council, in office 1987 – 2000).

Nach der Rekrutenschule erholte sich Adolf Ogi auf dem stotzigen Heimetli seines Onkels, wo er sich besonders gerne als Melker betätigte. Eines Tages kam ein angelsächsischer Wandersmann des Weges und grüsste freundlich: "Hallo Mister!" Worauf Dölf protestierte: "Ich arbeite hier nicht als Mister, sondern als Melker!"

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Swiss Club BILLIARD

The **Swiss Club Billiard Doubles Championship** was held on the 14 March at the Swiss Club.

The Doubles team Paul Thornton and George McMillan worked themselves into the 'Hall of Fame' winning the trophy.

I look forward seeing everyone on the 20 June for the battle of the **Bernard Sandoz Trophy**.

Come along, bring your friends and enjoy a happy Friday evening. Cost \$15 per person including dinner. Start is 7.30pm.

Please pencil into your diary:
 Friday, 10 October: **Swiss Club Singles Championship**

To book please ring Roger (Swiss Club) or Louis on 9439 7593 or 0418 645 313. If you have any queries or suggestions do not hesitate to contact me.

Hope to see yours all in June

Louis Schneider



TRACHTENGRUPPE SCHWYZERGRUESS AUSTRALIAN / SWISS CULTURAL SOCIETY

Kaffeeklatsch

We would like to extend an invitation to all our Senior Citizens (over sixty) to a wonderful afternoon of Coffee, Cakes and a Chat = Kaffeeklatsch, at the Swiss Club.

Sunday, 14 September, 2pm

There is no charge for this cosy afternoon, however our Group is thankful for any donations.

Please reserve a place by ringing or leaving a message with Rita Schwärzler-Abbt (9561 7811) or Rosmarie Oswald (9583 9048).

RSVP no later than Monday, 2 September.



Stöck, Wys, Stích!

1st Jass Night Results – Swiss Club, 19 April

Singles

Doubles

1. Brigitte Goldiger	2890
2. Bruno Jenny.....	2835
3. Hans Pecar.....	2766
1. Simone & Alex Baehler	5266
2. Robin Martin & Beat Zaugg.....	5252
3. Doris Conrad & Hans Keller	5064

Upcoming Jass Nights - 2008

2nd	14 June	Swiss Club
3rd	12 July	Swiss Club
4th & Final	6 September	Swiss Club
3rd	9 August	Matterhorn

Information supplied by Paul Eisenegger 9544 4681

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All eyes are on the ball!

The European football championship, which is the third largest sports event in the world, will take place in Switzerland and Austria from 7 to 29 June 2008. This is only the second major football event that Switzerland has hosted since the world championship in 1954. Previously known as the UEFA European Football Championship, the tournament features Europe's top 16 teams based on qualifying games that have taken place since 2006. UEFA Euro 2008 will be the Swiss National Team's third appearance in any Euro Cup and Austria's first. Switzerland is automatically qualified, being the co-host of the event, with its neighbour Austria. The other 14 teams were decided in the qualifying stage of the tournament that concluded in November 2007. The draw to determine the composition of first-round matches was made on December 2, 2007.

In summer 2008 thousands of football fans and supporters from across the world will visit Switzerland and Austria to see who will win UEFA Euro 2008 and take the honour of best team in Europe. Both countries have been hard at work in their preparations to throw a first-class football event, and were responsible for only the second-ever successful joint-bid in the history of the UEFA Euro. The first was for UEFA Euro 2000, which was jointly hosted by Belgium and the Netherlands, and the trend is set to continue when Poland and Ukraine host UEFA Euro 2012.

Switzerland will host a total of 15 games in Geneva, Basel, Zürich and Bern, including the opening game and a semi-final (both in Basel).

SWISS TEAM GUIDE

Honours: Quarter finals in World Cup in 1934 and 1938. Silver Medal at the 1924 Olympics.

European Championship Record:

1960 to 1992: did not qualify



1996: elimination after Round 1

2000: did not qualify

2004: elimination after Round 1

MAIN PLAYERS

Pascal Zuberbühler

Date of birth: 08/01/71

Position: Keeper

Height: 1.97m

About: This giant and experienced goalkeeper, who plays with Neuchâtel Xamax, is one of the big stars of the team. He played over 200 professional games in his career, including UEFA Champions League

matches when he was keeping the cage of Bayer Leverkusen. He counts 47 caps.

Hakan Yakin

Date of birth: 22/02/77

Position: midfield

Height: 1.80m

About : Yakin raises two sorts of conversations. The first one is about his numerous and not so successful transfers (Paris Saint Germain, Galatasaray, Stuttgart...). The second one is about his fidelity and efficiency with the Swiss National Team, with 50 caps since 2000 and his participation at the 2004 Euro and the 2006 World Cup. Yakin is famous for his technical skills.

Alexander Frei

Date of birth: 15/07/79

Position: forward

Height: 1.79m

About: The Borussia Dortmund and captain of the Swiss National Team is a small forward, quick, agile and famous for his sharp eye. He can score in almost every position, with both feet. He already counts 32 goals in 54 caps - an impressive record! With a natural discreet character, Frei will be one of the big stars of this Euro.

Head Coach: Jakob "Köbi" Kuhn

Date of birth: 12/10/43

Position: Head Coach

About: Kuhn is one of the "older" coaches of national teams, since he was appointed to his function in 2001! He is a former player of Zürich and counts 63 caps for Switzerland. Kuhn proved to be an excellent leader, bringing his inexperienced team to a good level at the Euro 2004 and World Cup 2006. This competition will probably be his last one.







MATCH LOCATIONS





A map of Switzerland with several cities highlighted in red and labeled with white text in circles. The cities are Basel, Bern, Zürich, Solothurn, Wien, Innsbruck, Klotenfurt, and Genève. A large white cross is visible on the left side of the map, representing the Swiss flag.

TEAM GUIDE





Group A

 Switzerland	 Czech Republic
 Portugal	 Turkey





Group B

 Austria	 Croatia
 Germany	 Poland













Group C

 Netherlands	 Italy
 Romania	 France

Group D

 Greece	 Sweden
 Spain	 Russia

GROUP A FIXTURE

7 June	Switzerland		-		Czech Republic	St.Jakob Park, Basle
7 June	Portugal		-		Turkey	Stade de Genève, Geneva
11 June	Czech Republic		-		Portugal	Stade de Genève, Geneva
11 June	Switzerland		-		Turkey	St.Jakob Park, Basle
15 June	Switzerland		-		Portugal	St.Jakob Park, Basle
15 June	Czech Republic		-		Turkey	Stade de Genève, Geneva



Bern, March 2008.
Open letter by Tom Morgenegg,
Head of the Youth Service



OSA Youth Service

The programs of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad's (OSA) Youth Service are as successful as ever. In 2007 more than 400 youngsters took advantage of our various offers. The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad aims to give young Swiss living abroad an opportunity of getting to know their country. We hope our holiday camps and training possibilities will forge friendships and strengthen their ties with Switzerland.

This year, two new projects are added to our programs. During the European Football Championship a group of young Swiss Abroad will take part in a workshop on the Euro 2008. Coming from all over the world, the participants will tour stadiums, meet with football experts, take a look at the media coverage behind the scenes and join the big celebration together with thousands of football fans along the "fanmiles".

Our seminar "Switzerland without Borders?" will take place in August. Information on Switzerland's European policy, workshops on European cooperation, meetings with supporters and opponents of Switzerland joining the EU and participation at the Congress of the Swiss Abroad – that will be held in Fribourg – including a meeting with Federal Councillor Moritz Leuenberger. Our summer 2008 leaflet will provide all needed information.

As mentioned earlier, our aim is to give to as many young Swiss living abroad as possible the opportunity to get to know better their home country. These encounters beyond cultures play a large part in understanding foreign identities and their own history. We wish to awaken the interest of these young people in exploring their roots.

You will find all information about our large offer on www.aso.ch. Limited support is available within the framework of the Youth Service for funding financially weaker participants. The application form can be obtained from the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad.

Our programs receive the support of the Federal Service of the Swiss Abroad, specially of Ambassador Mr Markus Börlin. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

Any queries should be directed to:

Walter Purtschert

Representative, Council for the Swiss Abroad
11 Hornby Street
Beaumaris Vic 3193
M: 0413 444 666
E: wpurtsch@bigpond.net.au

Special offer to members

As part of your insurance coverage for the Swiss Club the insurance company offers our members a discount on Personal Insurance Policies. For details please see below:

AON Personal Insurance (API Gold)

API Gold is our AON Personal Insurance initiative that offers your staff and/or members premium discounts of up to 20%* on policies purchased via our website www.apigold.aon.com.au and provides insurance for home and contents, motor vehicle, strata, landlords, travel and boat.

API Gold is available to you at no extra cost and is just one of the many benefits of being a client of AON. API Gold also offers a range of personal insurance solutions designed to reduce the amount of time and energy your staff and/or members spend dealing with their personal insurances, such as:

- Premium discounts of up to 20%*
- Easy payment options, such as credit card and pay by the month - all at no extra cost
- Paperless claims
- 24-hour online quoting
- 24-hour claims assistance

*The premium discounts reflect a discount off the standard AON Personal Insurance base premiums. The premium discounts apply to new AON Personal Insurance policies purchased online via www.apigold.aon.com.au. The 20% premium discount does not apply to motor vehicle insurance policies. Motor vehicle insurance policies attract a 10% premium discount. Policies purchased via the AON Personal Insurance Customer Care Centre do not attract a premium discount. This offer is subject to change without notification.

For further details please contact our representative at AON, Milton Gonzalez on 9211 3124 or by email: Milton.gonzalez@aon.com.au

Please be advised that the Swiss Club does not receive any benefits through this offer!

Winter time is Raclette time!



Every Friday night Raclette grills will be available at the Swiss Club Restaurant.

Cook your own Raclette cheese, beef fillet, Swiss sausage or chicken fillet*, served with gherkins, pickled onions and potatoes.

Bookings are essential for the grill oven to be available on your table. Minimum 4 people @ \$30 per person.

Please book on 9650 1196

*Meats may vary on the night



The Swiss Club of Victoria and the Swiss Academic Network Melbourne (SANM) jointly present:

Global Climate Change – a presentation with TOP to TOP

Friday, 30 May, 7pm

Swiss Club of Victoria, 2nd floor

TOP to TOP (a non profit organisation of volunteers) is on a Global Climate Expedition under the patronage of United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and Switzerland. The Swiss TOP to TOP Global Climate Expedition is the 1st expedition to sail around the world, and climb the highest mountain in each continent along the way, using only human and nature's power. The expedition has recently arrived in Australia after sailing from Europe via Alaska, South America, Antarctica and the Galapagos Islands (see www.toptotop.org).



TOP to TOP has chosen this expedition as an adventurous means to create awareness of global climate change

and inspire the world to research and support lasting, environmentally friendly solutions. TOP to TOP, Swiss couple Sabine and Dario Schwoerer with their two little children Salina and Andri (both born in Patagonia on the expedition) will talk to us about their experiences.

Ladies LUNCHEON

Ladies, mark the two dates below in your diary. Come and join us at 12 noon at the Swiss Club for good food, good company and an interesting guest speaker.

- **Wednesday, 2 July**
- **Wednesday, 3 September**

Price \$22 pp for members, \$25 pp for non-members. Includes 2-course meal, wine, soft drinks and coffee.

Non-members are also welcome, bring a friend or two. For information ring Heidi Giger on 9889 9321. For bookings please ring Roger at the Club on 9650 1196. See you there!

Heidi Giger

SGS is now a major sponsor of the TOP to TOP Expedition. SGS is the Geneva based world's leading inspection, testing, verification and certification company employing over 50,000 globally, including over 1,000 employees in Australia operating from over 40 offices & laboratories around Australia (see www.sgs.com).

A free event. Families bring your children along. Enjoy dinner at the club before the presentation. Please book with the restaurant on 9650 1196.

How to...

sign up for a username on www.swiss.org.au in just 2 minutes!

1. Go to www.swiss.org.au and click on the tab **User**



2. Click on tab **Apply for your own Profile**



3. Again enter your details and under **Current Email Address** the address where you want your XYZ@swiss.org.au emails being forwarded to. Tick **I accept the Terms and Conditions** and click on **Continue**



4. Complete the relevant fields and choose the level of accessibility, click on tab **Update Profile**.

CONGRATULATIONS!



ASSDA - Australian Swiss Search Dog Association

The Australian Swiss Search Dog Association Inc. (ASSDA) is a charitable, non-profit volunteer organisation founded in 1995 in Melbourne.

ASSDA is an organisation of volunteers who train their dogs for the purpose of finding people buried under the rubble of buildings collapsed due to explosions, earthquake, landslides etc. and to assist Emergency Services upon request. Formerly, ASSDA was active in training dog/handler teams to search for persons missing in the wilderness or lost in alpine conditions.



ASSDA sought assistance from the Swiss Disaster Dog Organisation (REDOG) in setting up search and rescue (SAR) dog training in Australia because globally, REDOG

is acknowledged as being specialists in this field. REDOG has proven to be very supportive and, after due process, admitted ASSDA into their ranks as a regional group. For legal reasons this status was later changed - ASSDA is now a partner organisation of REDOG (www.redog.ch).

In respect of training methods, standards and testing, we are firmly aligned with REDOG. To facilitate training and to ensure that ASSDA's training standards keep pace with its parent organisation, ASSDA regularly invites qualified REDOG trainers and assessors to Australia so that all ASSDA members can benefit from the Swiss expertise.

ASSDA instructors also regularly attend courses in Switzerland to update their own knowledge and to ensure that we are up to date with the latest training methods.

SEARCHES

Wilderness

When ASSDA was involved with wilderness search, teams were on two searches for missing persons. The first search was for a young boy lost in Mt. Samaria State forest and the second search was for a missing person near Mt. Baw Baw. Teams were also placed on stand-by for several other searches, but the searches were either called off or were re-categorised by the police.

Alpine Search

ASSDA was requested to assist in the search for four missing snowboarders on Mt. Kosciusko as well as for a skier lost at



Mt. Hotham. Unfortunately, at that time no ASSDA dog teams had had any training in snow conditions and so for professional reasons, ASSDA declined the call-out. ASSDA teams then spent a week in each of the next three winter seasons at Falls Creek gaining avalanche training under the guidance of Swiss trainers and assessors. Not only did the dogs learn to locate persons and back packs buried under the snow, they also learned to ride the chair lifts and skidoos.



Disaster Search

Fortunately Australia is rarely struck by earthquake disasters. However, since the September 11th twin towers terrorist attack, the authorities have become acutely aware of the possibilities of such a disaster occurring in Australia. As a consequence, ASSDA now focuses exclusively on disaster search and works very closely with the fire brigades in various states. Teams take part in simulated exercises in Melbourne, Adelaide and Brisbane to familiarise themselves and their dogs with deployment situations; and of course the fire brigade personnel learn how dog teams operate on a disaster site and how they best integrate with the rest of the rescuers.



WHY USE SAR DOGS?

Dogs are quicker at covering ground than humans and are far more agile; they have an acute sense of smell. A large nosed dog may have up to 220 million olfactory cells in its nose(!) compared with the average human's 5 million and their hearing is vastly superior. A dog 'sees' the world through its nose as well as its eyes and ears. Compared to our superficial visual perspective of the world, a dog's view is a tangible and almost solid 3D perspective.

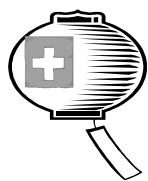
SAR dogs are specifically trained to search out human scent, follow the scent to the source and alert the handler to the find.

In this modern, high-tech world, the well trained SAR dog team still has an indispensable place in search and rescue operations identifying specific locations to rescuers from immense areas of destruction. In time critical emergencies, where survival rates are decreasing with every passing hour, SAR dogs are indeed man's best friend.

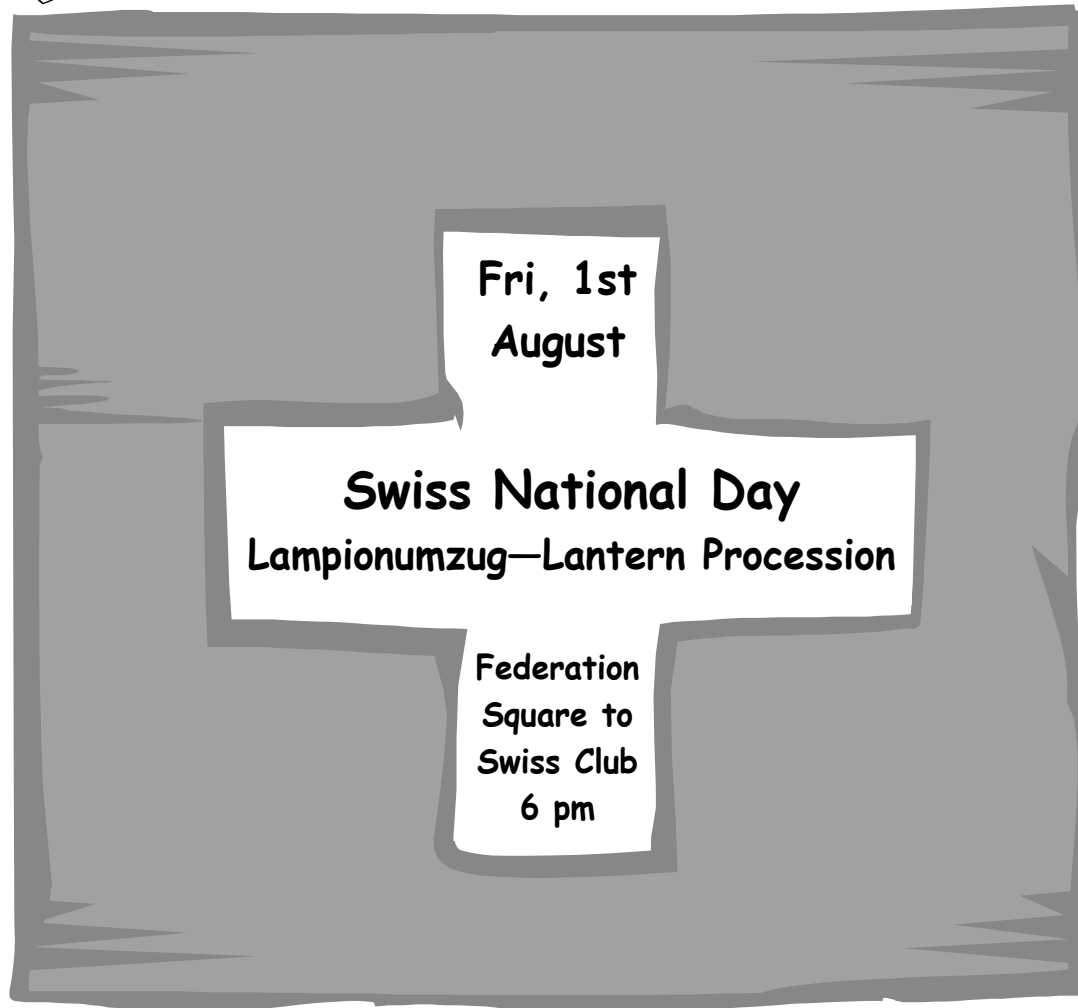
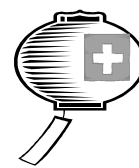
To find out more, please contact:

Elke & Peter Effler
5 Barbara Ave.
Boronia Vic 3155
T: (03) 9762 1303
E: peffler@optusnet.com.au
W: www.assda-sardogs.org





Come with your children and celebrate
Swiss National Day at the Swiss Club



Please note the different route this year! We meet at Federation Square (near the big screen) at 6.00pm (6.15pm start) Melway 2F G5/6. The procession will go along the Yarra and end at the Swiss Club 2nd floor.

Bring your own lantern (bought or homemade), flags, bells etc. (lanterns with candles or batteries only, no flammable liquids)



Back at the club, refreshments will be served for the children.

As National Day is on a Friday this year, there will also be an organized dinner for parents.

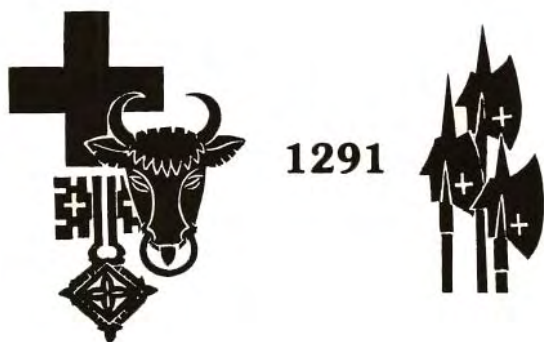
Members: Children free / Adults \$16.00 pp for dinner (Älplermagronen with salad)

Non-members: Children \$6.00 pp / Adults \$20.00 pp for dinner (Älplermagronen with salad)

Must RSVP and **PREPAY** (no exceptions) by Sunday, 27th July 2008. For more information & RSVP, go to <http://www.swiss.org.au/event.php?ID=1009> or contact Gerda on 0439 936313 or gerda@swiss.org.au

*Please note that parents are responsible for the supervision and safety of their own children **at all times** during the event.*

Personal Insurance is the responsibility of participants



National Day Family Picnic

Gembrook Sports Ground - Melway map 312 F9

Sunday, 3 August
from 11.00am to 4.00pm

Admission Free – Plenty of Shelter

Come and enjoy the traditional Swiss family picnic to celebrate this special day!

Grilled Sausages – Nussgipfel – Glühwein

Children's Games – Bonfire – Yodelling & Folkloristic Music

Children bring your Lampions!

Organised by the Matterhorn Society

Login and get the latest info: www.swiss.org.au/swissclubvic

SWISS CLUB MOVIE



Die Herbstzeitlosen

Wednesday 18 June, 7pm
2nd floor

CH 2006, Comedy
Stephanie Glaser, Hanspeter Müller-Drossaart,
Heidi Maria Glössner
Director: Bettina Oberli
Swiss-German, English Subtitles
86min

Since the death of her husband, Martha, 80-year-old, has lost her zest for life. In her village in the Emmental, especially her friends Lisi, Hanni and Frieda are concerned about her. After discussion, they decide to help her realise a long-held dream: to open a lingerie boutique. The news causes consternation in the little town of Trub.

Free for members, non-members small gold coin donation.

Enjoy dinner at the club, before or after the movie. Please book with the restaurant on 9650 1196.

Celebrate National Day at the Club

Friday, 1 August, 7pm

Entertainment:

Get into the swing with "Kapelle Grüezi Mitenand", from 7.30pm to 11pm

3 course menu with Coffee & Tea

Cost: \$35.00, drinks at bar prices

Reservations: Book early with Roger on 9650 1196



National Day Senior Members' Luncheon

Monday, 11 August, 12 noon

For Swiss Club Members born 1936 and earlier

The Committee of the Swiss Club of Victoria has much pleasure in inviting you to celebrate Swiss National Day 2008 with a Luncheon at the Swiss Club.

Please fill in the form below and mail to the Swiss Club
no later than 4 August.

For Information, please ring:

Rita Schwärzler-Abbt: 9561 7811 or Sylvia Hochuli: 9531 6575

Cost: Complimentary for Members, non Members \$32.00

Payment to be enclosed with application

Yes, I would like to attend the Swiss Club National Day Senior Members' Luncheon 2008

SCV Membership Card number(s):

Name(s):

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Payment: _____ x \$32.00 = \$ _____

Complimentary for Swiss Club Members



John Schmid, a new member with an old history

Editor: John, you have recently become a member of the Swiss Club. What was the motivation to become a member?



John: My connection to Switzerland is through my Swiss ancestry of which I am very proud. I hope that joining the Swiss Club will give me a better understand where my family came from.

Editor: What do you know about your ancestry? When did your family settle in Australia?

John: I've done quite a bit of research. The Schmid family history in Australia commenced in 1873, when my great-grandfather, Johannes Schmid and his family arrived in Queensland from Switzerland.

He had applied for an assisted passage for his family to Queensland, on a contract to work as a shepherd. Unlike the immigrants of later years, they did not receive a free passage, as they were required to repay the costs of the voyage within two years. The family, comprising Johannes, his wife Anna Maria, (nee Suter), and five children, including my twelve year old grandfather, Johann Fridrich Schmid, sailed from Hamburg, Germany, and arrived at Bowen, Queensland in July 1873. They were then transported overland to Townsville.

The acting Immigration Agent, H.R. Buttanshaw wrote in his report, "The immigrants are a very good looking people, healthy and strong, and likely to make good colonists. ...on the whole we have reason to be satisfied with the importation, but hope that the next lot will be from our own country." Mr Buttanshaw's comments regarding "the importation" might appear high-handed to us, but doubtless was standard immigration jargon at the time.

I don't have a lot of information about my great-grandfather, a lot more is known about my grandfather, Johann Fridrich, or Fred as he called himself later. He was born in Oberfrick, canton of Aargau, on 31 August 1860. On arrival in Australia, he could not speak or read English. He had no formal schooling, but self-taught, soon became fluent in English. His first job was at a butcher shop in Townsville. Later on he worked as a teamster on bullock trains, carrying goods to Western Queensland. On one trip, the bullock train got bogged on an uninhabited part of the track, and Fred had to survive on hot beer from his load, until he managed to get his teams and wagon out of the mud.

Editor: Hot beer! Imagine, we may not be able to conduct this interview if his load would have been bails of wool or the like!

John: Indeed! Well, after this it appears that he thought it would be safer to carry goods to the Palmer Gold Fields in North Queensland. In this, he could not have been more wrong, as he had to survive numerous attacks by spear throwing Aborigines. Fortunately, the number of attacks was probably fewer than it might have been, since the Aborigines preferred to eat Chinese, because they tasted better than Europeans.

Editor: Are you serious?

John: I don't know, but a quote from a Newspaper article of the time says: "Chinese pack teams, on their way to and from the Palmer, suffered most from early morning attacks by the Aborigines, who were credited with preferring the flesh of a Chinaman to that of a white man".

Later still, he took up sheep droving; at one time he had a flock of 6000 sheep to deliver.

After he married my grandmother Margaret, (nee Murray), in 1889, my grandfather had to settle down to a steady occupation. He started his own cordial factory in Ingham, north of Townsville. He finally made peace with the local Aborigines, and would give them bottles of his cordial. One day they offered to take him to see "Big Fella Falls." Fred organised a party with a photographer, Alfred Friend, and the group were



said to be the first white men to see the highest waterfall in Australia, namely, Wallaman Falls, outside Ingham, in the early 1890's.

Various snippets of information

are all that have survived of the remainder of his life. To fill in his spare time he used to shoot crocodiles. He also served in the Queensland mounted infantry and was a councillor of the Hinchinbrook Shire Council. His last years were spent in Warwick, Queensland, where he died in 1924.

Mr Buttanshaw was half right - the Swiss did make good colonists. My grandfather became an Australian citizen when he took the oath of allegiance on 17 January 1889, aged 28. Notwithstanding that he became an Australian citizen, to all of the family, he was our Swiss father, grandfather etc., we are all very proud of this.

Editor: Thank you John



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Swiss Events & Functions



Please note that this calendar also list events other than those organised by the Swiss Club of Victoria and its subgroups. Please book all Swiss Club functions (**bold entries**) with Roger, phone 9650 1196 or fax 9650 3104 and check website for latest information and details of upcoming events. For all other events please contact the relevant organisation (see page 3 for contact details).

MAY	Friday	30	Top toTop Presentation on Climate Change - Swiss Club
	Saturday	31	Trivia Night at the Club - SANM

JUNE	Thursday	05	Kapelle Grüezi Mitenand entertains at the Club
	Saturday	14	Jass Night - Swiss Club
	Saturday	14	JW Swing Orchestra plays at the Austrian Club
	Wednesday	18	Swiss Movie Night
	Friday	20	Billiard Competition - Bernard Sandoz Trophy

JULY	Wednesday	02	Ladies' Luncheon
	Thursday	03	Kapelle Grüezi Mitenand entertains at the Club
	Saturday	12	Jass Night - Swiss Club
	Saturday	19	Singles Soirée/Dance at the Club - Companion Singers

AUGUST	Friday	01	National Day Lampionumzug / Lantern Procession
	Friday	01	National Day Celebration at the Club
	Sunday	03	National Day Family Picnic in Gembrook - Matterhorn
	Saturday	09	Jass Night - Matterhorn
	Saturday	09	JW Swing Orchestra plays at the Austrian Club
	Monday	11	Editorial Deadline – Newsletter September issue
	Monday	11	National Day Senior Members Luncheon at the Club
	Wednesday	20	Swiss Movie Night
	Saturday	23	Snow Trip to Mt. Buller

SEPTEMBER	Wednesday	03	Ladies' Luncheon
	Thursday	04	Kapelle Grüezi Mitenand entertains at the Club
	Saturday	06	Jass Night - Swiss Club (Finals)
	Sunday	07	Fondue dans la neige - Groupe Romand
	Sunday	14	Kaffeeklatsch - Trachtengruppe Schwyzergruess
	Monday	15	Ambassador's Golf Tournament
	Wednesday	17	Half-Yearly General Meeting
	Saturday	27	JW Swing Orchestra plays at the Austrian Club

OTHER REGULAR SWISS CLUB MEETINGS:

Committee Meetings: Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month

Swiss Folk Dance Group Alpenrose: Practice every Tuesday evening at 8.15pm

Swiss Companion Singers: Practice and social gathering every 2nd and 3rd Thursday of each month at 8pm

Saturday Morning Swiss School: Every second Saturday Morning except school holidays, from 9.30am to 12.30pm

Swiss German Playgroup: Meets every 1st Thursday of each month from 11am to 2pm

Young Swiss Group: Get-together every 2nd Wednesday of each month from 7pm